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IN THE CLAIMS

1   Claim 1 (original): A method for use in a policy-based management system
2 comprising the steps of:
3   selecting a prescribed quality of service goal for a prescribed client and prescribed
4 service;
5   determining a delivered quality of service for said selected quality of service goal;
6   determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said selected
7 quality of service goal; and
8   if so, executing prescribed actions regarding network resources assigned to said
9 client for said service, wherein said actions are intended to adjust said delivered quality
10 of service toward being equal to said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 2 (original): The method as defined in claim 1 wherein a system
2 administrator specifies said quality of service goal without said system administrator
3 having to specify said prescribed actions intended to enforce said quality of service goal.

1   Claim 3 (original): The method as defined in claim 2 wherein said quality of
2 service goal is a service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 4 (original): The method as defined in claim 3 wherein said step of
2 determining said delivered quality of service includes a step of employing monitored
3 states of network resources assigned to said client and said service to determine said
4 delivered quality of service.

1   Claim 5 (original): The method as defined in claim 3 wherein said step of
2 determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining
3 if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected quality of service goal and, if so,
4 said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions to
5 reduce network resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality
6 of service goal.

1   Claim 6 (original): The method as defined in claim 5 further including a step of
2 reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 7 (original): The method as defined in claim 5 further including a step of
2 reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

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1   Claim 8 (original): The method as defined in claim 3 wherein said step of
2 determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining
3 if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected quality of service goal and,
4 if so, said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions
5 to increase network resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected
6 quality of service goal.

1   Claim 9 (original): The method as defined in claim 8 further including a step of
2 reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 10 (original): The method as defined in claim 9 further including a step of
2 reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 11 (original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including the steps
2 of storing said selected quality of service goals and determining whether said stored
3 quality of service goals should be updated.

1   Claim 12 (original): The method as defined in claim 11 further including a step of
2 updating said stored quality of service goals.

1   Claim 13 (original): The method as defined in claim 12 wherein each of said
2 quality of service goals is a service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 14 (original): The method as defined in claim 13 wherein said step of
2 updating includes steps of adding a service level quality of service goal to said stored
3 quality of service goals, redefining a stored service level quality of service goal or
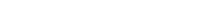4 removing a stored service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 15 (original): The method as defined in claim 1 further including steps of
2 monitoring a state of each network resource in a set of network resources and storing said
3 monitored states.

1   Claim 16 (original): The method as defined in claim 15 further including a step of
2 updating said monitored state of each network resource in said set of said network
3 resources.

1   Claim 17 (original): The method as defined in claim 16 wherein said step of
2 updating includes steps of requesting an update of said state of each network resource in
3 said set of network resources, querying said state of each network resource in said set of
4 network resources and storing said updated state.

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1   Claim 18 (original): The method as defined in claim 15 wherein said step of

2   monitoring further includes steps of receiving a network event notification indicating a

3   change in state of a network resource and storing said indicated change of state of said

4   network resource as an update of the state of said network resource.

1   Claim 19 (currently amended): A—The method ~~for use in a policy-based~~

2   ~~management system~~ as defined in claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

3   storing a set of service level quality of service goals;

4   storing monitored states of a set of network resources;

5   wherein said step of selecting includes selecting said ~~a~~-prescribed defined quality

6   of service goal from said stored service level quality of service goals for a prescribed

7   client and prescribed service; and

8   wherein said step of determining a delivered quality of service includes a step of

9   using said stored monitored states to determine a delivered quality of service for said

10   selected quality of service goal;.

11   ~~determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said selected~~

12   ~~quality of service goal; and~~

13   ~~if so, executing prescribed action regarding network resources assigned to said~~

14   ~~client for said service to adjust said delivered quality of service toward being equal to~~

15   ~~said selected quality of service goal.~~

1   Claim 20 (original): The method as defined in claim 19 wherein said step of

2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining

3   if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected quality of service goal and, if so,

4   said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions to

5   reduce network resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality

6   of service goal.

1   Claim 21 (original): The method as defined in claim 20 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 22 (original): The method as defined in claim 21 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 23 (original): The method as defined in claim 19 wherein said step of

2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes a step of determining

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3   if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected quality of service goal and,

4   if so, said step of executing includes steps of determining and executing a set of actions

5   to increase network resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected

6   quality of service goal.

1   Claim 24 (original): The method as defined in claim 23 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 25 (original): The method as defined in claim 24 further including a step of

2   reporting to said system administrator results of executing said actions.

1   Claim 26 (original): Apparatus for use in a policy-based management system

2   comprising:

3   means for selecting a prescribed quality of service goal for a prescribed client and

4   prescribed service;

5   means for determining a delivered quality of service for said selected quality of

6   service goal;

7   means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said

8   selected quality of service goal; and

9   means, responsive to said delivered quality of service being different, for

10   executing prescribed actions regarding network resources assigned to said client for said

11   service, wherein said actions are intended to adjust said delivered quality of service

12   toward being equal to said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 27 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 26 wherein a system

2   administrator specifies said quality of service goal without said system administrator

3   having to specify said prescribed actions intended to enforce said quality of service goal.

1   Claim 28 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 27 wherein said quality of

2   service goal is a service level quality of service goal.

1   Claim 29 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 28 wherein said means for

2   determining said delivered quality of service includes means for employing monitored

3   states of network resources assigned to said client and said service to determine said

4   delivered quality of service.

1   Claim 30 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 28 wherein said means for

2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for

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3   determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected quality of service
4   goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to reduce network
5   resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 31 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 30 further
2   including a step of means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 32 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 30 further
2   including a step of means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing
3   said actions.

1   Claim 33 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 28 wherein said means for
2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for
3   determining if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected quality of
4   service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to increase network
5   resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 34 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 33 further
2   including a step of means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 35 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 33 further
2   including a step of means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing
3   said actions.

1   Claim 36 (currently amended): Apparatus The apparatus as defined in claim 26
2   for use in a policy-based management system further comprising:
3   means for storing a set of service level quality of service goals;
4   means for storing monitored states of a set of network resources;
5   wherein said means for selecting includes means for selecting said prescribed
6   defined quality of service goal from said stored service level quality of service goals for a
7   prescribed client and prescribed service; and
8   wherein said means for determining a delivered quality of service includes means
9   for using said stored monitored states to determine a delivered quality of service for said
10   selected quality of service goal.
11   wherein said means for selecting includes means for selecting said a prescribed
12   defined quality of service goal from said stored service level quality of service goals for a
13   prescribed client and prescribed service; and

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14   wherein said means for determining includes means for using said stored

15   monitored states to determine a said delivered quality of service for said selected quality

16   of service goal;.

17   ~~means for determining if said delivered quality of service is different than said~~

18   ~~selected quality of service goal; and~~

19   ~~means, responsive to said delivered quality of service being different, for~~

20   ~~executing prescribed actions regarding network resources assigned to said client for said~~

21   ~~service, wherein said actions are intended to adjust said delivered quality of service~~

22   ~~toward being equal to said selected quality of service goal.~~

1   Claim 37 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 36 wherein said means for

2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for

3   determining if said delivered quality of service exceeds said selected quality of service

4   goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to reduce network

5   resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 38 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 37 further

2   including a ~~step of~~ means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 39 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 37 further

2   including ~~a step of~~ means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing

3   said actions.

1   Claim 40 (original): The apparatus as defined in claim 36 wherein said means for

2   determining if said delivered quality of service is different includes means for

3   determining if said delivered quality of service is worse than said selected quality of

4   service goal and means for determining and executing a set of actions to increase network

5   resources assigned to said client and said service of said selected quality of service goal.

1   Claim 41 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 40 further

2   including a ~~step of~~ means for reporting to said system administrator said set of actions.

1   Claim 42 (currently amended): The apparatus as defined in claim 40 further

2   including a ~~step of~~ means for reporting to said system administrator results of executing

3   said actions.

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